

HOUSE BILL 948

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F5

2003 Regular Session  
3lr2393  
CF 3lr2095

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By: **Delegate Proctor**

Introduced and read first time: February 13, 2003

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

Re-referred to: Appropriations, February 27, 2003

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 21, 2003

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CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland School for the Blind - Funding**

3 FOR the purpose of ~~altering the amount that counties shall pay~~ requiring each county  
4 board of education to pay a certain amount to the Maryland School for the Blind  
5 each year; ~~altering the calculation of the appropriation for the Maryland School~~  
6 ~~for the Blind; defining a certain term; providing for a delayed effective date;~~ and  
7 generally relating to funding for the Maryland School for the Blind.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
9 Article - Education  
10 Section 8-310(a) ~~and 8-317~~  
11 Annotated Code of Maryland  
12 (2001 Replacement Volume and 2002 Supplement)

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
14 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

15 **Article - Education**

16 8-310.

17 (a) Each county BOARD shall pay the Maryland School for the Blind [\$200 a  
18 year] AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO THE LOCAL SHARE OF THE BASIC COST, AS DEFINED IN  
19 § 8-415(D)(1) OF THIS TITLE, for each blind child who is sent to the school from the  
20 county EACH YEAR TO SUPPORT THE COST OF INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMMING.

1 ~~§ 8-317.~~

2 (a) (1) ~~In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.~~

3 (2) ~~"4-year average annual full-time equivalent enrollment" means:~~

4 (i) ~~The average number of students enrolled annually in grades~~  
5 ~~prekindergarten through grade 12 at the Maryland School for the Blind during 4~~  
6 ~~consecutive school years as determined by dividing the aggregate monthly enrollment~~  
7 ~~during the 4-year period by the number of months school is in session during the~~  
8 ~~4-year period; and~~

9 (ii) ~~One-half the average number of children served annually by~~  
10 ~~the Maryland School for the Blind's Early Intervention Program during 4 consecutive~~  
11 ~~school years as determined by dividing the program's aggregate monthly enrollment~~  
12 ~~during the 4-year period by the number of months school is in session during the~~  
13 ~~4-year period.~~

14 (3) ~~"ANNUAL SALARY INCREASE" MEANS THE INCREASE IN THE~~  
15 ~~AGGREGATE SALARIES OF TEACHERS AND OTHER PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL, AS~~  
16 ~~REQUIRED BY § 8-309 OF THIS SUBTITLE, FROM THE AGGREGATE SALARIES OF~~  
17 ~~TEACHERS AND RELATED PROFESSIONALS IN THE PRIOR FISCAL YEAR COMPARED~~  
18 ~~TO THE SECOND PRIOR FISCAL YEAR.~~

19 (4) ~~"Growth in the per-pupil basic current expense figure" means the~~  
20 ~~change in the per-pupil basic current expense figure from the prior fiscal year to the~~  
21 ~~current fiscal year divided by the per-pupil basic current expense figure from the~~  
22 ~~prior fiscal year.~~

23 ~~[(4)]~~ (5) ~~"Per-pupil basic current expense figure" means the figure~~  
24 ~~calculated for each fiscal year by the Department in accordance with § 5-202 of this~~  
25 ~~article.~~

26 ~~[(5)]~~ (6) ~~Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, "prior-year~~  
27 ~~appropriation" means the State appropriation to the Maryland School for the Blind in~~  
28 ~~the prior fiscal year less any funding provided under § 8-315 of this subtitle in the~~  
29 ~~prior fiscal year.~~

30 ~~[(6)]~~ (7) ~~"Weighted enrollment growth" means the product of 0.2 times~~  
31 ~~the change in the 4-year average annual full-time equivalent enrollment from the~~  
32 ~~3rd through the 6th prior school years to the 2nd through the 5th prior school years~~  
33 ~~divided by the 4-year average annual full-time equivalent enrollment from the 3rd~~  
34 ~~through the 6th prior school years.~~

35 (b) ~~Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, the Maryland School~~  
36 ~~for the Blind shall receive an appropriation equal to or greater than the sum of:~~

37 (1) ~~75% of the prior-year appropriation multiplied by the product of:~~

38 (i) ~~The sum of the weighted enrollment growth plus one; and~~

1 (ii) The sum of the growth in the per pupil basic current expense  
2 ~~figure plus one; [and]~~

3 (2) 25% of the prior year appropriation multiplied by the sum of the  
4 ~~weighted enrollment growth plus one; AND~~

5 (3) ~~120% OF THE ANNUAL SALARY INCREASE.~~

6 (e) ~~The "prior year appropriation" used to calculate the fiscal year 2000~~  
7 ~~appropriation to the Maryland School for the Blind shall be \$11,585,436.~~

8 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
9 July 1, ~~2003~~ 2004.